



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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SEMI-ANNUAL AUCTION SALE OF ALASKA SEALSKINS

Prices of Government owned Alaska fur-seal skins dropped slightly while fox skins advanced in price at the semi-annual auction held in St. Louis, Missouri, on April 14, the Fish and Wildlife Service announced today.

The gross proceeds from the sale of sealskins amounted to \$1,134,513, while an additional \$6,524 was realized from the sale of 632 blue fox skins. At the last auction held on October 21, the total amount realized was \$1,397,384 for 26,032 fur-seal skins, and \$6,321 for 664 fox skins.

A total of 23,282 dressed, dyed and machined fur-seal skins from the Pribilof Islands were offered by the Government at the April 14 public auction through its agent, the Fouke Fur Company of St. Louis. Prices averaged \$48.73 per skin, or about 7 percent less than in the October auction when the average price of all skins was \$54.45. Of the skins sold, 11,503 were dyed matara brown, 9,423 were safari brown, and 2,356 were black.

The average price received for blue fox skins was \$10.32, an advance of approximately 9 percent over the average for similar skins at the October auction.

All of the Government offerings were sold during the auction which was well attended by buyers from all sections of the country.

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